

Terwilliger Fire Key Messages

Fire information line: 541-822-7259

Location, Size and Cause:

The Terwilliger Fire was initially reported at 3:21 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 19, 2018.

The Forest Service and the Oregon Department of Forestry promptly responded with firefighting resources including hand crews, engines and aircraft. Exceptionally dry conditions led to the fire's quick growth and may continue to intensify the fire.

As of Aug. 22, 2018, the fire is approximately 1248 acres and is burning actively on both the west and east side of Cougar Reservoir about four miles south of Highway 126 on Aufderheide Scenic Highway (Forest Service Road 19). The fire is in the area of Terwilliger Hot Springs and across Cougar Reservoir in the Three Sisters Wilderness.

The fire started near the trail to Terwilliger Hot Springs. The cause of the fire is under investigation. There was no recorded lightning in the area.

The fire is located near the site of the December 2017 landslide, which closed the road for nearly seven months as crews worked to removed rocks and debris. The road reopened on July 27, 2018.

The fire is also burning near the 2017 Rebel Fire, part of the Horse Creek Complex, which resulted in closures of Road 19 and numerous recreation sites.

Current Conditions

Current weather and extremely dry fuels are conducive to new ignitions and rapid spread of any fires that develop.

Aviation resources are being used as weather and smoke conditions allow.

There are currently no evacuation orders. The Lane County Sheriff's Office initiates evacuations. Community members are encouraged to sign up for the Lane County ALERT ME! Community Emergency Notification System at <http://public.alertsense.com/SignUp/?regionid=1087>.

The fire did burn through the Terwilliger (Cougar) hot springs. Assessments will begin as soon as it is safe for staff to enter the area.

Smoke from this fire may be visible from the communities of McKenzie Bridge, Blue River, Vida, Rainbow and portions of Highway 126; conditions are expected to worsen in the evenings. Widespread smoke and haze are across Northwest Oregon from multiple fires burning in California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. Residents and visitors have many resources to check air quality, see online resources below.

Public Use Restrictions: Campfires are banned across the forest, except in designated campgrounds. Use of charcoal briquettes is prohibited, but camp stoves that run on propane or liquid fuels and have an on/off switch are acceptable.

[Forest Order 06-18-00-18-14 Public Use Restrictions](#)

Temporary flight restrictions (TFR) are in effect around the entire fire area. Remember, that temporary flight restrictions also apply to unmanned aircraft systems (drones), so if you fly, we can't!

Closures

Willamette National Forest has implemented an area closure: Forest Order # 06-18-01-18-17.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd592847.pdf

From Hwy 126, the closure begins where Forest Service Road 19 intersects with Forest Service Road 1900-408 and continues south to Rebel Trailhead.

Closed Campgrounds: Hard Rock Campground, French Pete Campground, Cougar Crossing Campground, Sunnyside Campground, Slide Creek Campground

Closed Recreation Sites: Indian Ridge Lookout, Terwilliger Hot Springs, Echo Day Use and Boat Launch

Closed Trails: French Pete Trail #3311, Bear Flat Trail #3301, Quaking Aspen Trail #3332, Lowder Mountain Trail #3329, Olallie Mountain Trail #4100, Walker Creek Trail #3330, East Fork Trail #3308, Indian Ridge Trail #3315, Rider Creek Trail #3319, French Pete Trailhead, Upper Lowder Mountain Trailhead, Upper East Fork Trailhead, Lower East Fork/Lower Echo Trailhead, Echo Trailhead, O'Leary / Castle Rock Trailhead, Lowder Mountain Trailhead, Indian Ridge North (Upper) Trailhead, Indian Ridge South (Lower) Trailhead

Closed Forest Service Roads (FSR): Sections of FSR 1900, Sections of FSR 2618, Sections of FSR 1927, FSR 1900-408, FSR 1900-410, FSR 1980, FSR 1985, FSR 1986, Sections of FSR 1993, FSR 1994

Online Resources

- Willamette National Forest Fire Information: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/willamette/fire>
- InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/willamettentf>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/willametteNF>
- 2017 Burn Severity Maps: <http://go.usa.gov/xQ9H8>

Air Quality:

- <http://www.lrapa.org/216/Todays-Current-Air-Quality>
- <https://oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/map>
- <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>
- <https://airnow.gov/>